

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL CHARTER

1. The Committee's Official Designation

The official designation of this federal advisory committee is the Technological Advisory Council (TAC).

2. Authority

The TAC is hereby renewed at the direction of the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act as amended, 5 U.S.C. App 2.

3. Committee Objectives and Scope of Activities

Rapid advances in technology have resulted in innovations in how telecommunications services are provided to, and are accessed by, users of those services. Many of these advances are increasing the rate of convergence among categories of services that have traditionally been viewed as distinct, such as cable television services, telephony, data services, and internet services. Regulations must be examined in light of these technology advances, and the FCC must remain abreast of new developments in technology so that it can effectively fulfill its responsibilities under the Communications Act.

The purpose of the TAC is to provide technical advice to the Federal Communications Commission and to make recommendations on the issues and questions presented to it by the FCC. The TAC will focus on key issues affecting the deployment of new broadband technologies and services seeking to spur opportunities for innovation, greater efficiencies, and job creation. The TAC will address questions referred to it by the FCC Chairman, the FCC Chief Technologist, the Chief of the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology, or the TAC Designated Federal Officer. The questions referred to the TAC will be directed to technological and technical issues in the field of communications.

4. Description of the Duties for Which the Committee is Responsible

The duties of the TAC will be to gather data and information, perform analyses, and prepare reports and presentations to respond to the questions referred to it.

5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports

Chairman, Federal Communications Commission.

6. Support

The Federal Communications Commission will provide the facilities and staff support necessary to conduct meetings in Washington, D.C. Members of the committee serving as representatives will serve without any government compensation, and will not be entitled to travel expenses, per diem or subsistence allowances.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years

Annual operating costs associated with supporting the TAC's functions are estimated to be \$100,000 and one full-time regular government employee.

8. Designated Federal Officer

A full-time or permanent part-time employee, appointed by the FCC Chairman, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the advisory committee's and subcommittees' meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the FCC Chairman.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Committee Meetings

The TAC will meet approximately three to five times per year, with the possibility of more frequent meetings by informal subcommittees. Meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public. Timely notice of each meeting shall be published in the *Federal Register* and shall be further publicized through other appropriate vehicles.

10. Duration

The TAC shall convene for a two year period from the date on which this charter is filed. The charter may be renewed for an additional two years prior to the charter termination date.

11. Termination

The TAC will terminate two years from the date on which this charter is filed, unless the charter is renewed before that date for an additional term.

12. Membership and Designation

Members of the Committee, including the TAC Chairperson, will be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission. Members will be appointed either as Representatives or as Special Government Employees (SGEs), as necessary. Members will be recognized experts in their fields and, for representatives of private sector organizations, individuals who hold technical leadership positions such as Chief Technical Officer. Members will be selected to balance the expertise and viewpoints that are necessary to address effectively the new technology issues that will be referred to the TAC.

Members should be prepared to attend three to five meetings per year in Washington D.C. and are responsible for all associated expenses. The TAC will also use a website and other tools supporting remote interaction, and members are expected to be able to devote some time each week to electronic deliberations. As members of a collegial federal advisory committee, members should be prepared for vigorous debate with their peers on TAC as well as with FCC Commissioners and staff. Members will have an initial and continuing obligation to disclose any interests in, or connections to, persons or entities that are, or will, be regulated by or who have interests before the FCC.

13. Subcommittees

The Chairpersons of any subcommittees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission. Recommendations of subcommittees must be reported to the Committee as a whole, and only as modified or ratified by the Committee as a whole may such

recommendations be included in the official record of the Committee proceedings and reported to the Chairman of the Commission.

14. Recordkeeping

Records of the proceedings will be kept, as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

15. Filing Date

May 20, 2015